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Book 1870

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University of the City of New York.

INAUGURATION OF

REV. HOWARD CROSBY, D.D.,

AS

CHANCELLOR,

17th November, 1870.

New York:

J. ADNAH SACKETT, Book, Law and Job Printer, 48 John Street.

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The vacancy in the office of Chancellor of the University, occasioned by the resignation of Rev. Isaac Ferris, D.D. on 18th July, 1870, was filled by the election of Rev. Howard Crosby, D.D. of the City of New York, on the 11th October of the same year.

Dr. Ferris was the third in the series of Chancellors, having been preceded by the Rev. J. M. Matthews, D.D. and the Hon. Theodore Frelinghuysen LL. D. Dr. Ferris for seventeen years had fulfilled the duties of his office.

The accession of Dr. Crosby was attended with enlarged plans in the curriculum of study, and force of the Faculties ; and with a determination to increase the endowment.

The public Services of the Inauguration was held at the Hall of the Young Men's Christian Association, on 4th Avenue and 23d Street, in the City of New-York, on the evening of the 17th day of November, 1870.

Mr. Charles Butler, in the absence of Mr. John C. Green, the President of the Council, presided, and made the introductory statement and address on behalf of the Council.

The several departments of the University then presented, each through one of their Professors, their addresses of congratulation to the Chancellor on his accession.

The Faculty of Letters and Arts, was represented by Professor E. A. Johnson, LL.D.

The Faculty of Medicine, by Professor Alfred C. Post, M.D.

The Faculty of Law, by Hon. Henry E. Davies, LL. D., President of the Law School.

The Faculty of Science, by Professor Henry C. Draper, M.D.

John Taylor Johnston, Esq., the President of the Alumni Association, addressed the Chancellor on the part of the Alumni.

These addresses preceded the Inaugural Oration of CHAN-CELLOR CROSBY.

ADDRESS FROM THE COUNCIL.

MR. CHARLES BUTLER, on behalf of the Council of the University, said :

THE installation of a new Chancellor affords a proper occasion to review briefly the origin and history of the University of the City of New-York, and such a reminiscence is eminently due, not only to the memory of those who participated in laying the foundation of the Institution, but also to the distinguished scholars who have filled the professorial chairs during these forty eventful years of its existence: to the Alumni, who have gone forth from its walls from year to year—many of whom have passed from this into a higher and better sphere, leaving behind them names fragrant with precious memories—and to those who remain performing their part in the great world around us. The history of the University then, is embodied in the comprehensive plans and munificence of its founders; in the work of its able and accomplished faculties, and in the character and lives of its Alumni. Time would not permit me to enter upon this history this evening, but I trust the record will be made by a more able hand, while there yet linger among us the footsteps of some of its original founders.

We may however glance briefly at its origin—recall the names of a few of its projectors and friends, and those who have been identified with its history, as members of its Council, and of its various Faculties, and dwell

for a moment on its present condition and future prospects.

Institutions live, while they who found them pass away.

Educational institutions in this country all spring from a common origin, the voluntary principle, and are exponents of the genius and intelligence of the people, and the progress and growth of the country, in all the elements that constitute her true greatness. If we would form a proper idea of the munificence and wise foresight which erected the stately structure on Washington Square, we must go back forty years, to 1830, when the population of the City, according to the census, was only about 200,000, and Columbia College was the only Institution within its limits, which offered the advantages of a liberal education. This College had been richly endowed, in part by the Crown, previous to the Revolution, and in part by the State afterwards, and was, therefore, independent of private support. The opportunities offered by it however, were not then deemed adequate to the increasing necessities of the people of this rapidly growing city, and to meet the deficiency, and supply a pressing need in the interest of the city then and for all time, a few leading and public spirited citizens associated themselves together, and determined to lay the foundation of an Institution of learning, to be erected by private liberality, which should bear the name of the University of the City of New-York, and which should be every way worthy of the Metropolis.

They did not solicit the State or the City to aid in its endowment, and neither has ever contributed in any degree to its permanent funds.

The organization was perfected in 1830, and on the 18th of April, 1831, an Act of Incorporation was passed by the Legislature.

This Act provides that the government and estate of the University shall be conducted and managed by a Council composed of thirty-two shareholders, the Mayor, and four members of the Common Council; that no one religious sect shall ever have a majority in the Board, and that persons of every religious denomination shall be equally eligible to all its offices and appointments. The members of the first Council named in the act were, Jonathan M. Wainwright, James M. Matthews, Spencer H. Cone, James Milnor, Samuel H. Cox, Jacob Brodhead, Cyrus Mason, Archibald Maclay, Morgan Lewis, Albert Gallatin, Samuel R. Betts, James Tallmadge, Henry J. Wycoff, George Griswold, Myndert Van Schaick, Stephen Whitney, John Haggerty, Martin E. Thompson, James Lenox, Benjamin L. Swan, John S. Crary, Samuel Ward, Jun'r, William Cooper, Fanning C. Tucker, Oliver M. Lownds, Valentine Mott, Edward Delafield, William W. Woolsey, Charles G. Troup, Gabriel P. Disosway, Charles Starr, and John Delafield, with William Seaman, Gideon Lee, Benjamin M. Brown, and Thomas Jeremiah, members of the Common Council, together with Walter Bowne, then Mayor of the City.

You will not fail to recognize in this list the names of many of the leading Citizens, Bankers, Merchants, Divines and Physicians of that day—and it may be mentioned incidentally here that this movement awakened an interest among thoughtful men on the subject of education generally, which a few years later resulted in

the reorganization of the Common School system of the City on a free basis, and in the establishment of the Free Academy, now the College of New-York.

Albert Gallatin was the first President of the Council elected in 1831, with Morgan Lewis as Vice-President, honored and distinguished names in the history of our country—the one had been Secretary of the Treasury of the United States, and the other Governor of this State. On the resignation of Mr. Gallatin, the duties of President were discharged by the Vice-President, up to 1834, when Gen'l James Tallmadge was elected, and held the office for a period of twelve years. On his death, in 1846, the Rev. Dr. Gardiner Spring acted as President *pro tem.* for a period of three years. This eminent divine was elected a member of the Council in 1843, a position which he still holds.

Immediately after their organization, the Council proceeded to the work of erecting a suitable building for the accommodation of the Institution, and the magnificent structure on Washington Square stands to-day a monument of their public spirit, wise foresight, and persistent energy.

The Council were subjected to some criticism for adopting plans of such dimensions and cost, and it is certain the magnitude of the work entailed upon them heavy burdens, and that for many years pecuniary responsibilities taxed their patience and energies to the utmost, crippled the Institution, and impeded its success.

But its friends never shrank from the task they had assumed. In the darkest days between 1837 and 1840,

when ruin and bankruptcy were impending, and to human eye seemed inevitable, they never faltered in their interest and support. Foremost among them were George Griswold, John Johnston, Myndert Van Schaick, James Brown, James Boorman, Samuel S. Howland, William M. Halstead, R. T. Haines, and other equally honored names.

Dr. Matthews was appointed by the Council to the office of first Chancellor in 1831, which office he held until 1839. He was one of the original founders, and had taken perhaps a more active part than any other, in all the measures to establish the Institution, and it is but simple justice to his memory to say, that but for his comprehensive views, and his enthusiastic devotion to them—his untiring zeal and efforts, the building would not at that time have been completed.

In 1839, Dr. Matthews was succeeded as Chancellor by that eminent lawyer and christian statesman, Theodore Frelinghuysen, who made it a condition of his acceptance of the office, that the friends of the University should relieve it from its floating debt, and to this end about eighty thousand dollars were promptly subscribed. On his resignation in 1857, he was succeeded by Dr. Ferris, and soon after his election the last vestige of debt was extinguished, mainly through his influence and instrumentality. Dr. Ferris, after 19 years of faithful duty, has just resigned, and the Council, feeling that they ought not longer to hold him to the labors of the office, as an expression of their abiding respect and affection, have placed him on the foundation of CHANCELLOR EMERITUS, with a continuance of salary during his life, a testimonial most richly deserved.

Thus, up to the present time, the University has had but three Chancellors ; the fourth is to be inaugurated this evening. He is one of its Alumni, of the class of 1844, the son of one of its founders, who contributed liberally towards its support, and for many years was a member of its Council, and gave to it the benefit of his wisdom and personal influence. Having graduated with the highest honors, he was called in 1852 to fill the chair of Greek Professor, which he did for many years, with great acceptance and advantage to the Institution. He afterwards occupied the same chair in Rutger's College, which he finally relinquished from convictions of duty, to fill a position of the highest usefulness, that of the sacred ministry. He is now called by the unanimous and cordial voice of the Council to assume the office of its Executive head.

Having for several years been a member of the Council, participated in the management, and made himself familiar with its present condition and needs, the information thus acquired, added to his ripe scholarship, and his varied and useful experience, inspire the Council with the conviction, that with his accession to the Chancellorship, a new epoch opens to the University.

With this change, which introduces into the Executive chair one of its own sons, thoroughly imbued with a love for his Alma Mater ; and in sympathy with the demands of the times in regard to education, and the needs especially of this great city ; and with the aid of Faculties in every department, composed of men, who to say the least for scholarship and ability will compare favorably with those of any College or Educational Institution in

the country, we may trust that the University will accomplish in the future all that its founders and friends have hoped for it.

The first Faculty of Science and Letters was organized in 1832; it was composed of—

Rev. (afterward Bishop,) Charles P. McIlvaine, Henry Vethake, Daniel B. Douglas, John Torrey, Thomas H. Gallaudet, John Mulligan, Rev. Henry P. Tappan, Samuel F. B. Morse, Edward Robinson.

Afterwards, other Faculties were established of Law and Medicine. We have no time here to indicate the names, distinguished in Science and Literature—in Law and Medicine—which from time to time have composed the Faculties of the University, since the organization of the first, forming a catalogue of which any Institution of learning might be proud.

But there is one which appears on the list of our first Faculty of Science and Letters which stands out so prominently not only in the annals of the University but in those of the Nineteenth century, that it must not be passed by. It is enough to say, that it was in one of the Turrets of the University, overlooking Washington Square, that Samuel F. B. Morse, one of its Professors, first made those experiments which gave to the world the Electric Telegraph. Let us congratulate ourselves that the illustrious INVENTOR is with us this evening, and that his name is known and honored in every quarter of the globe.

In this connection I may also mention the name of Dr. John William Draper, (now absent in Europe,) who has occupied chairs in the University, and been actively

identified with it for more than thirty years, and who is well known in both hemispheres for his works in various departments of science, history and literature. Engaged in experiments in photography, in the earliest period of this wonderful art, he was the first who succeeded in applying it to the representation of the human countenance.

At present, no Institution in the city or country offers to young men advantages and attractions for study superior to those of the University.

It has organized and able Faculties in the several Departments of Science and Letters—of Law—Medicine; it has a School of Civil Engineering—of Analytical and Practical Chemistry, and a special course for students in Physical Science and English Studies.

It only now remains to open its doors and to offer these advantages to all, without money and without price. To enable the Council to do this, will require a moderate addition to its existing endowments and income. Thanks to the generosity of our fellow citizens, (among whom I must name Loring Andrews, who not long since made us the munificent gift of \$100,000,) the additional amount required to establish the University on a free basis is not large.

An addition to its permanent fund of \$240,000 would secure the accomplishment of the plans formed for its complete success.

In comparison with what was effected when the wealth and population of the city were both so limited, and above all, in view of the great objects to be attained, and the opportunity now opened to the Institution,

should there be a question or delay in giving it this added source of strength and efficiency?

And now, sir, I present you the Resolutions of the Council, constituting you the head, and committing to you the care, of this Institution ; and with these I tender to you our congratulations, and the expression of our highest confidence, earnestly wishing, that by the blessing of a gracious Providence upon your labors, you may be enabled to fulfill the duties of your responsible station with satisfaction to yourself, and eminent usefulness to the community.

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Prof. E. A. JOHNSON, LL.D., on behalf of the Faculty of Letters and Art, addressed the Chancellor, as follows :

REVEREND AND HONORED SIR :

HAVING been designated by my colleagues to tender to you, on this occasion, the congratulations of the Faculty of Science and Letters, permit me to assure you that it is with more than ordinary gratification and satisfaction that I respond to the call, and in their name welcome you once more to the responsibilities of academic trust and to its highest dignity.

Holding as we do a connection with the University which dates from a time so near its first organization, and covers the entire terms of the incumbency of the second and third Chancellors, as well as the conclusion of the term of the earliest incumbent of the office, there

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is reason for our rejoicing that from among her own sons one has been found to unite the suffrages of all who cherish with feelings of pride and confident hope her past history and future welfare.

We rejoice in your return to academic life in this new position of honor and trust—first, because in a twofold sense we count you as one of us. Our memory goes back to the time when you first entered the University as a student, and were fondly encircled by the fostering arms of your Alma Mater. We did not afterwards lose sight of you when you had left her fold, and in your allotted place were trying the weapons and proving the armor with which she had furnished you for the battle of life. It was, too, with fond pride that we saw you recalled to her service as an honored son, and put in charge of an important chair in the corps of her instructors. It is not as strangers, then, that we meet, but as those that have mutually known each other long and intimately. Our congratulations and felicitations therefore at this time, believe me, are more than a mere form. They come from our hearts, and we trust find like cordial response in your own.

What our institutions of learning of the highest grade should be, where they should be located, and how conducted, are questions on which it is not my province on this occasion to touch. But it is no unimportant ground of our congratulations, besides the personal ones to which I have referred, that you bring with you to this new field so large an experience of academic life, acquired in two different institutions, and that since your withdrawal from these posts you have been in daily and intimate

contact with the unacademic world through the channels of a varied and far-reaching professional career. This twofold experience of the internal working and needs of our collegiate institutions, and of the external relations in which they stand to the community and of the demands that are made upon them—experiences so happily united in you, and held simultaneously without antagonism, give us an assurance that, with a heart warmed by filial love for your Alma Mater, with a memory richly stored with the lessons of practical and academic life, with a matured judgment and firm purpose, you accept the honor and the trust reposed in you, with a will that shall leave no question of the way to accomplish the high ends for which it was founded and is still cherished in the hearts of its friends.

Your Alma Mater is situated in the very heart of the metropolitan city of the nation, and, bearing its name, is designed primarily to meet its wants. These wants, moral and intellectual, social and religious—in a word educational in the truest and highest sense of the term—you have not now for the first time to learn. Your acquaintance with them has been a life-long acquaintance; and beyond that of the native-born citizen merely, who has only made this city the seat of his residence, it has been rendered more minute and comprehensive, as pertaining to both sexes and all ages, by the requirements of a profession which includes them all.

The very activities and industries of a busy commercial city, its high material prosperity and consequent tendency to neglect spiritual and mental growth and advancement, however these influences may be thought to

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conflict with the retirement and quiet supposed to be necessary for intellectual and scientific culture, make it more imperatively necessary that the softening and elevating influences of educational institutions and systems of every grade, from the primary to the highest, should be established within her precincts, fostered by her enlightened citizens, and sustained with a vigor and a power commensurate with her lofty aspirations, her proud position, and the urgent needs of her population.

We congratulate you, honored sir, that in these directions your head and heart and hand will, in your new position, find ample scope for the exercise of the maturest wisdom, the most expansive benevolence, and the highest and most fruitful activity.

Nor is it single-handed and alone that we welcome you to the high emprise. We believe that you will have the cordial sympathy and effective support of all true lovers of good learning, of all enlightened friends of social order and progress—in a word, of the benefactors of their race. For when and where have the noblest representatives of the commercial enterprise of this city, of its material prosperity in every direction of its energies, of its scientific, literary, Christian culture and refinement, been backward to appreciate, throughout the land, the claims of education and learning, or slow to assist the efforts made in their behalf.

In particular among these representatives of our city's wealth, culture, and munificence will be found, we trust, many an Alumnus of the University who will recognize and acknowledge the tie which binds her sons in a common brotherhood and holds them to a united en-

deavor to realize under your lead the high aspirations and hopes which they have long cherished for their Alma Mater.

With happy omens and good auspices, then, we hail the inauguration of the fourth Chancellor, and congratulate you, and through you the Alumni of the University, that their Alma Mater sees them in the full possession of her highest dignities and trusts.

That just pride in her sons may ever be to her the best and highest guerdon, and that, sustained by their sympathies, stimulated by their zeal, and aided by their counsels and co-operation, she may become more and more worthy of their filial reverence and support, has been and will ever be our wish and prayer.

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Prof. ALFRED C. POST, M. D., on behalf of the Faculty of Medicine, addressed the Chancellor, as follows:

AS a representative of the Faculty of Medicine in this Institution, I take great pleasure in joining with the other Faculties in presenting a united tribute of respect, to the learned Scholar and accomplished Christian gentleman, who has been elected to the high office of Chancellor of the University. Each Faculty, has its own special department, committed to its care, while all are engaged in the common object of enlarging the boundaries of science, of cultivating the intellect, of developing the moral faculties, and raising the whole man above the low platform of

his animal appetites and passions, to the higher level which it becomes him to occupy, as a rational and responsible being.

The University of the City of New-York, during the period of nearly forty years which have elapsed since its foundation, has occupied a distinguished position among the institutions of learning in our country, and the brilliant discoveries, and scientific improvements of some of its Professors, have commanded the admiration of the civilized world, and will continue to shed their beneficent influences, upon all the dwellers on the earth, until the end of time. We are so much accustomed to the wonders of the Electric Telegraph, that we have almost forgotten that it is a product of our own age, and that our immediate ancestors, knew nothing of its beneficent operations. We receive communications from our friends in Chicago, New Orleans, or San Francisco, within an hour from the time when they were *sent*. Or if by appointment, we meet at the telegraph offices, we can converse along the mysterious wires and communicate our thoughts and feelings, almost in a moment of time, over an interval of hundreds, or even thousands of miles. We sit at our breakfast tables, and as we read our morning papers, we receive accurate information of the events of the preceding day, in France and in Germany, in England and in Russia, in Italy and in Spain. And these things have become so much a matter of course, that we scarcely think that it was not always so. And yet, but a few years have passed, since the Electric Telegraph was first constructed, and for this wonderful invention, fraught with such stupendous results to the interests of humanity, the world is indebted to the genius

and persevering industry of Professor Samuel F. B. Morse, of the University of the City of New-York.

Among the most wonderful inventions of modern times is the Photographic Art, especially as it is applied to the delineation of the human form and features. We sit for a few moments, in front of a box provided with glass lenses, and the solar rays have depicted our image with an accuracy and minuteness of detail, far surpassing the best results of the painter's art. And these perfect delineations of the human countenance and figure, can be furnished at so low a price, as to bring them within the reach of the poorer classes of the community. Parents can thus, at a slight expense, provide portraits of their children, from year to year, exhibiting their growth and development from infancy to mature age. And the venerated forms and features of parents, may in like manner be preserved to their children, in the different stages of what to the outward eye, seems to be the decay of their natural powers, but which to the eye of faith, and of filial affection, is the ripening for a better state of being, in a brighter and purer world. And what shall I say of the delight which is afforded to two young hearts which beat in unison, as they enjoy the luxury of "love's young dream," when they exchange with each other the portraits, in which each can trace the perpetual presence of the object most loved on earth?

But it would be a superfluous task to dwell in detail, on the additions to the sum of human enjoyment, which the Photographic Art has contributed by its accurate delineations of the human form and features. The amount of enjoyment thus afforded, is a fair measure of the debt

ADDRESS FROM THE FACULTY OF MEDICINE.

which the world owes to Professor John W. Draper, of this University, who made such improvements in the Daguerrean art, then in its infancy, as to adapt it to the taking of portraits.

The Medical Faculty of the University of the City of New-York, which I have the honor to represent, has exercised an important influence on the interests of medical education in this city, and throughout our country. It was the first Medical Faculty in the United States, which introduced the system of clinical instruction, within the College walls. And its example in this respect, has been followed by all the Medical Colleges of any reputation throughout the country. And in this manner, a vast amount of valuable practical instruction has been communicated to our successive classes of medical students, fitting them to perform in a better manner the important and responsible duties of professional life. Another great boon conferred upon the profession, by the Medical Faculty of this University, was the securing of an enactment, by the Legislature of the State of New-York, legalizing the study of Practical Anatomy. Before the establishment of this Faculty, the supply of the necessary material for dissections was scarce and uncertain, and it could not be obtained without a violation of the law of the State, subjecting the perpetrator to punishment, as a felon. The law presented this curious anomaly, that medical men were liable to punishment for malpractice, if ignorant of Anatomy, and if they were detected in the act of procuring the material, without which it was impossible to obtain the requisite anatomical knowledge, they were doomed to imprisonment, as felons, in company with

thieves and ruffians. So great was the difficulty of obtaining subjects for dissection, that it became necessary to import them from other cities. When I was demonstrator of Anatomy, in the College of Physicians and Surgeons, I was sent to Baltimore, to make arrangements for a supply of subjects, from that city. The Medical Faculty of the University, soon after its establishment, took vigorous measures to secure from the Legislature of the State, appropriate legislation to overcome this difficulty. The obstacles to success were great, and apparently insurmountable. Popular prejudices against dissections, seemed to be an impassable barrier, and our politicians were unwilling to come into collision with these prejudices. But the Medical Faculty nobly persevered, until at last, their efforts were crowned with complete success. A law was passed by the Legislature, and approved by the Governor, making the most ample and liberal provision for the study of Practical Anatomy. For this consummation, so devoutly wished and longed for by the profession, and so important to the community at large, credit is mainly due to the untiring energy, and the tactical skill of Professor Martyn Paine, who spent a long time at Albany, working with his characteristic ardor, in convincing the members of the Legislature, of the absolute necessity of the proposed measure, as a means of promoting the great interests of science and humanity.

The graduates of the Medical Department of this University are about 3,000 in number. They are to be found in every part of our country, from the great Lakes to the Gulf of Mexico, and from the Atlantic to the Pacific Ocean. Many of them reside in the British Possessions,

beyond our northern limits, and a number of them, in the West Indies and in Central and South America. Some of them are to be found in Europe, in Asia, in Africa, and in the Islands of the Ocean. They occupy places of distinguished influence and usefulness, as practitioners of medicine, and as teachers of the healing art. Seven of them, occupy important chairs in the Medical Colleges of this city, and others occupy chairs in other Medical Colleges in our country. One of them is Professor of Surgery, in Beirut, on the eastern shore of the Mediterranean Sea, and another occupies the chair of Anatomy, in the same Institution. And thus, through the agency of its Alumni, the University of the City of New-York is infusing the light of Western civilization into the sluggish mind of the East, and arousing it from its torpor, to active effort in the investigation of scientific truth, and in the cultivation of arts, which tend to the prolongation of human life, and to the promotion of human happiness.

But the time allotted to me, will not allow me to dwell longer on this topic. The event, which we celebrate this evening, is the Inauguration of Rev. Dr. Howard Crosby, as Chancellor of this University. He brings with him, to the high station to which he has been called, a solid reputation for learning, a refined taste, an energy of purpose, and decision of character, which afford a promise of extraordinary usefulness, in the new sphere which he is to occupy. Allow me to express the hope that this promise may be amply fulfilled, and that the administration of our new Chancellor, may be signalized by the infusion of new life into every department of the University, and that the Institution may thus receive an

impetus, which shall greatly increase its power and its usefulness. And when, at the close of a life devoted to the interests of sound learning and pure religion, he shall look back upon the results which he shall have been permitted to accomplish, may he have the cheering assurance, that his works shall follow him. May this Institution, for long ages to come, occupy the prominent position which becomes it, as the University of the City of New-York. And when this imperial city, as its manifest destiny seems to indicate, shall surpass, in population and in wealth, the most renowned cities of ancient and modern times, when its population shall be numbered by tens of millions, and the commerce of a vast and populous continent shall enrich its citizens, may this venerable seat of learning grow with its growth, and strengthen with its strength. From its halls of learning, may a long line of young men annually emerge, strong in their intellectual and moral development, and prepared to occupy prominent positions of usefulness, in Church and in State. Among its future Alumni and Professors, may there be other Morses and Drapers, whose brilliant discoveries and inventions shall excite the admiration of the world, and other earnest workers in the cause of human progress, who shall contribute their full share in ushering in that golden age of the future, as yet seen only in prophetic vision, when ignorance and vice and poverty shall disappear from the world, when universal peace and brotherhood shall exist among the nations, and when the kingdom of God shall be established upon the earth, that kingdom whose blessed fruits shall be righteousness, and peace, and joy in the Holy Ghost.

Hon. HENRY E. DAVIES, on behalf of the Faculty of Law, addressed the Chancellor, as follows :

CHANCELLOR CROSBY :

TIt is fitting, on an occasion of so much interest in the history of this Institution as the Inauguration of a new Chancellor, that every Department should join in the universal welcome, and in the chorus of congratulation. It is an epoch in the career of the University, and though the axiom is universally accepted that "*inter arma leges silent*," yet on this peaceful and joyous occasion the Law may be permitted to raise its voice of rejoicing and express its gratification.

The pleasing duty has been assigned to me, of extending a cordial welcome to you as our new Chancellor, and to assure you of the earnest co-operation of all the members of the Law Faculty, to advance the interests of the Institution, and render your administration of its affairs useful and distinguished.

We know that you enter upon the discharge of these laborious and complicated duties, with an earnest desire to elevate the standard of learning, and more widely diffuse the benefits and advantages of this Institution. Your long and intimate connection with the University ; your knowledge of its capabilities, and materials for usefulness, eminently qualify you to render these effective, and enable you to dispense to those who come to its halls, the rich treasures it has in store for all who diligently seek them.

Thus by precept and example you will encourage the timid, strengthen the weak, give new vigor and energy

to the strong ; lead all, through the gentle and inviting groves of learning to higher attainments, and to the acquisition of that knowledge, which renders man useful and happy, and in all the affairs of life is *power*. You will soon have perfected the organization of the various Departments of the University. You will impart to them your energy, and your zeal in the administration of their affairs. You will gather around you the young men of this commercial metropolis, who will eagerly seek the occasion to sit under your instructions, and be guided by your counsels, and who will catch new life and energy from the atmosphere surrounding them. You will thus widely diffuse the rich advantages which the founders of this Institution have so munificently provided for the youth of this city.

That it may be your good fortune to witness the realization of all your fond hopes, and expectations, is the desire of those associated with me in the Law Faculty, and who will spare no effort to strengthen your hands, and lend you their efficient support.

It is our ardent hope and confident expectation that you will go out and come in before this people laden with their choicest blessings ; and that when your labors are ended, one universal commendation will await you. *Well done thou good and faithful servant*, and that when your labors here shall terminate, you will take with you as your reward the affectionate regards of a grateful community, and the consciousness of duty well performed.

Prof. HENRY DRAPER, M. D., on behalf of the Faculty of Science, addressed the Chancellor, as follows:

REVEREND CHANCELLOR CROSBY:

BY order of the Committee of the Council, I am deputed to represent the Scientific Department of the University, on this the occasion of your installation as Chancellor of the University. The duty is particularly grateful to me, from our long acquaintance and old University relationship. Eighteen years ago when you were a Professor in this Institution I was in your class, and an agreeable reminiscence of that period still remains. Again by the proceedings of this evening we are brought close together, but each with time has moved a step upward in Alma Mater. I know that as Chancellor and Professor, we shall repeat the pleasant intercourse of Professor and Student.

Your accession to the management of the University, comes at a time when changes are occurring in the American system of instruction. The public demands a modification of the time honored plan, and threatens withdrawal of its patronage from those institutions which do not respond. You have the difficult duty of adding to the curriculum what is advantageous among new things, without disturbing what has proved valuable in the past. The Council will sustain you in this, for it has always been generous with gifts of money, and liberal in its tone, and is ready to cooperate with the public, in whatever is needed to make the University as prosperous as any College in the land.

We must provide for the people the intellectual food

that their constitutions and desires demand, they will have what they want, or they will not come when they are bidden to the feast. Our Anglo Saxon race is stubborn in requiring in its education, not only that which polishes the mind, but also that which bears on the practical affairs of life. Something is wrong in teaching, when a merchant says that he will not have a college boy in his office, that he is ruined for his purposes.

In America, so young in history, and as yet only escaping in intellect the leading strings of the mother country, Colleges have been too much prone to follow the old established systems, and forget that the mind of a nation develops as does the body of a child, and that that which is satisfactory to a people at one time, ceases to suffice afterwards. But in England, even at Oxford, which was the very type of the ancient order of things, the past few years have shown a great change, and additions and concessions to modern wants. To the course which is followed by the Universities of Europe, and particularly of Germany, one need hardly allude in face of this intelligent audience. Every one knows that they are very foci of modern mental activity.

Now what is the present position of the University from this point of view? Is she doing all that the public demands? Has she moved in the right direction and far enough?

Her Medical Department has by continued modification of its course, in accordance with the requirements of the profession, brought itself to a high stand among similar establishments. Only a few years ago, students were satisfied with the theoretical instruction of lectures, and

an occasional visit to the wards of an Hospital, but as the advantages of the reduction of theory to practice became more evident, that Faculty, under the auspices of the late Dr. Mott, introduced sick persons into the class room, and taught the diagnosis and treatment of disease upon the living subject. To such an extent has the satisfying of this craving for practical instruction been carried, that on an average $2\frac{1}{2}$ hours each day are expended in it, partly in our own building, and partly in the public Hospitals. The consequence is that the Medical Department points with pride to nearly 3,000 graduates, and 9,000 students in America.

In the Literary Department, for many years the Council has seen the importance of additions to the original plan, and the introduction of Science teaching on a more extended scale. In 1860 a Professorship of Natural Science was added to the other chairs, though unendowed, and at a little later period, my brother and myself were encouraged to establish from our own resources, a laboratory for practical instruction in Analytical Chemistry. These and similar movements were important steps, and their effect has been to draw to the Institution those who would otherwise never have made their appearance within her walls.

I look forward, Sir, under your auspices, and the control of the Council, to a great development in this direction. I trust the time may soon come when such studies as Physiology, or the construction and working of the human body, the practical applications of that most practical of all sciences Chemistry, Geology and Mineralogy, and their thousands of useful facts, Botany and

Agricultural Chemistry, may not only be taught but taught thoroughly, nay even when the University shall have her own Meteorological and Astronomical Observatories. It is not enough that such buildings and instruments as these last imply, should be in the private hands of Professors, and others connected with this Institution. They should be its property, and worked for its glory. The University should not be made visible by borrowed light, but shine of itself like the Sun.

It is with great pleasure that we may congratulate ourselves, on the recent action of the Council of the University, in giving an impetus to the Scientific Department. It will be a proud day for all connected with her in all her branches, the Medical, the Literary, the Scientific, and Legal Departments, when she shall show what education should be, and point to her many students as the token of public approval. May a repetition of such magnificent practical discoveries as the Electric Telegraph of Professor Morse, and the application of Photography to human portraiture of Professor Draper, be her portion in the future.

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JOHN TAYLOR JOHNSTON, Esq., on behalf of the Alumni, addressed the Chancellor, as follows :

BROTHER ALUMNUS:

ON behalf of the Alumni, I, their President, welcome to the highest office in the gift of the University, one who, like them, has made her academic halls the passage way to the busy world. For the first time in

the history of our Alma Mater a graduate has been selected for her care and supervision, and to assist others in reaching that goal which he has already successfully passed. It is unnecessary to recall again, as has been recalled, that you have been alternately scholar and teacher, student and professor, member of the Council and now Chancellor and general head. We welcome you sincerely and heartily. From the day of your Inauguration, we hope to date a new era of progress for the University in all her departments, and to look back to it as the beginning of a grander development of the extensive designs of her founders. The graduates of the University are her life blood, her vitality, from which she draws fresh vigor and activity. She points with pride to the many names that adorn her roll, men eminent in position at the bar, in the pulpit, in the busy walks of commerce and general business, among our literary institutions and in public life. Everywhere they are to be found toiling to fulfil their individual missions in their day and generation. During the late unhappy civil war they responded nobly to the call of their country, and many fell fighting bravely in her defence. The present Mayor of this city is a graduate from these walls, and whatever difference of opinion there may be about his politics, there can be none about his ability and energy. Let us hope that the Alumni will now be found urging forward with heart, hand and purse, the interests of their never forgotten Alma Mater; and that, stimulated by your zeal and energy, they also may successfully add to that prosperity which, without their steady and constant aid, can be but temporary. They see in you, sir, one of their number

devoting himself, without pecuniary recompense or reward, to the great work of building up in this commercial metropolis a literary centre worthy of the locality. Let this be a stimulus and a spur to them, and let them be a strong and valiant aid to you. Again, in their name, I bid you a hearty welcome to our halls in your new position, and wish you a brilliant success. May the Alumni not fail to redeem the pledge of support that I make you in their name; may you have them with you in every way; may that God who alone shapes our destinies guide and protect you, give you wisdom from on high, and a pleasant and useful career to look back on when its close draws nigh.

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INAUGURAL ORATION.

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A University is a living encyclopedia. The ideal University would include arts, sciences, philosophy and technics, and the *all* of these. A living mind would communicate the truth in each of these departments of knowledge, and the truth in each case would be *all* the truth known to man, in relation to the given subject. Such is the ideal University. The actual Universities of the world may be considered attempts *longo intervallo* to reach this idea.

Historically, we find the University originating in the 12th century, growing in a very natural way out of the schools attached to Cathedrals and Monasteries. Learning gathered about these centres. The churchmen were the only educated class, and the students of the schools were candidates for positions and honors in the Church. The teachers or the students gradually formed themselves into corporations for mutual support, received local immunities, and they became integral parts of the ecclesiastical system. The Italian, and most of the French Universities, were corporations of students, while the University of Paris was a corporation of

teachers. Those of Northern Europe and of Spain, occupied an intermediate position. Individual peculiarities, arising from local circumstances, would mark each Institution, but their general features were alike.

Cambridge and Oxford in England, and Pavia in Italy, are generally considered the oldest of the 108 Universities of Europe. The School at Cambridge goes back to the Heptarchy in A. D. 636, and Ingulphus tells us, that after the Normans had entered, as late as A. D. 1109, it consisted of four monks, teaching in a barn. But in A. D. 1231, it had reached the full proportions of a University, with Chancellor and Masters. The School at Oxford was founded by Alfred in A. D. 879, or rather an old school was restored by that energetic Monarch. In A. D. 1190, we first find it a University. The school of Pavia claims to have been constituted by Charlemagne, in A. D. 774, but we must descend to the 14th century, before we can recognize in it the features of a University.

Four faculties, to wit, of Theology, Law, Medicine, and the Arts were found in the complete University, and these faculties severally consisted of all the teachers or students (according to the style of the Institution) in any one of these departments of knowledge, forming subordinate corporations of the University corporation.

It continued its existence by granting degrees. The Bachelor (a term borrowed from knighthood) was an unfledged teacher. The Master was the teacher in full feather, and the Doctor was the teacher all feathered and with the use of his wings. When certain Masters and Doctors in later times received peculiar privileges

and fixed salaries, they became Professors, and so the original plan of teaching by graduates was to an extent superseded. To provide for indigent students Colleges or Halls were constituted in the University, the Hall being an unincorporated College. These gradually became appropriated to particular Faculties, and lost their eleemosynary character, it becoming necessary for each student to be connected with some College.

The head of the University was the Chancellor, whose duties were those of general oversight and granting of degrees. But the details of government and discipline were committed to the Rector, as presiding officer.

These were the original features of the University. Modifications, according to the changes in social and political conditions, occurred, but the general outline remained as before. The Chancellor and Rector were sometimes the same, the discipline was sometimes committed to a separate court, the Professors sometimes held different grades, as in the German Universities to-day are Professors ordinary, Professors extraordinary, and "*Privat docents*," the Professors were sometimes the governing as well as the teaching body, and the degrees lost their specific character. From this historical sketch, we may see that the essentials of a University are faculties of high instruction in the various departments of knowledge, with a system of sustentation and reward for the students, all under one general plan of government and discipline. The instruction, the sustentation and the government, are the three efficiencies, in which we find the requisites for an Institution that claims for itself the name of University.

No mere school, that seeks an elementary benefit for its pupils, even though that elementary instruction should be spread over a large surface of knowledge, and on the other hand, no school of profoundest teaching, if that teaching be confined to a single department of knowledge, can be called a University. The instruction must be both broad and deep. It must, to some extent, endeavor to meet all the wants of the times in its variety, and must be able to carry the student to the highest attainments in each department. To this end, there must be distinct groups of instructors, who may subdivide a department between them, each able to develop his own specialty to the fullest degree, and to present his subject in the best way under the circumstances to the minds before him. The system precludes any combining of subjects in the one teacher. Subdivision is the necessity for thoroughness. Methods of communicating knowledge cannot be stereotyped. As men and times change, *they* must or may change. Daily recitations, daily lectures, periodical examinations, either of these separately, or any two or all combined, may be adopted, the object being to convey the instruction in the best manner to the minds of the students. A wise teacher will adapt himself to circumstances. He must not be only a reservoir of knowledge, but a flowing stream. It hardly need be urged that the *διδάσκαλος* should be *διδακτικός*, and yet perhaps emphasis on so plain a truth may be sometimes necessary.

The University does not suggest a centre of eruditon, but, more than that, a place of instruction. It is not a literary, philosophical and scientific club, but a grand

school, or congeries of schools, where learning propagates itself in all its multiformity, and grows in strength and fullness by the propagation. Its faculties are well-charged batteries, whose very function is to communicate intellectual life and arouse mind to energy. Life is the characteristic of a University. It is a rude and vulgar error to regard the mediæval Universities as homes of sloth and drowsy bookishness. They were the creators of modern civilization, the elevators of society, the engines of all true progress. They held on high the torch of knowledge, and ever fed the cheering fire.

Vigilem sacraverunt ignem, excubias divum aeternas.

They were the destroyers of feudalism and caste, and the practical preachers of liberty. They were all this as the dispensers of knowledge, by the very necessities of the case, rather than by any conceived purpose. They were all this in spite of mistakes that were inseparable from the age and from their ecclesiastical origin. Bologna might send forth Gratian's *Decretum*, but centuries of legal talent and industry, devoted to the elucidation of jurisprudence, atone for this.

The second efficiency, in which we find a requisite for a University, is sustentation. By that, I mean a method of meeting the wants of the indigent. It is a well established fact that learning and wealth are not often partners. The men who have enlightened the world have had short purses and lean. They have pushed their way up the steep hill of Science through thorns; heroes they, who have welcomed poverty, if only wisdom were in her company. The ranks of the Universities

were filled by such. Very few of the princes, nobles and wealthy gentry could resist the fascinations of a luxurious or brilliant life, to devote their time to the confining labors of the study, and thus become plain citizens in the Republic of letters. A method of supporting the student was a necessity from the beginning, and to this end endowments from Church, State and individuals were received. The recipients of the benefit were called "socii," or "fellows." Originally, these fellowships were available only for those who were under the direct instruction of the University, but afterward they were extended to the students beyond their course of study, until they obtained a benefice. At length the fellowships were limited to those who had reached the degree of Master, and a system of bursaries or scholarships and special foundations took care of the undergraduates and bachelors.

The University was never intended to be supported by its pupils. It was an Alma Mater nourishing its own, and not nourished by them. It gave its advantages freely to all who were worthy, and rendered its scholars a sufficient maintenance to free them from worldly anxiety. All it asked of its children was their love and dutiful attachment, together with their upright and scholarly lives. It gave them intellectual status, and demanded of them the honor that was due.

In the government of the Institution, we find the third requisite of a University. One system embraced the whole. This was necessary for an even development, and harmonious action. The Colleges became wheels within a wheel. They were not independent of the

University, although independent of one another. The authority of the University was felt in every College. The Chancellor and the Council, University Court or Senatus superintended the teaching, administered the property, exercised the patronage to the chairs and managed all the general interests of the University. This governing centre had a great variety of forms in the different Institutions, but in almost all cases this feature was discernible; the Chancellor, Rector and Council, were Masters or Doctors of the University over which they presided. This bound them to its interests with the affection of children to a parent, and gave a peculiar unity of history and individuality of life to the University. It also eminently fitted them to guide the whole from their intimate acquaintance with its parts.

If we carefully examine the history of any of the great Universities of Europe, we shall find, amid the very many modifications and additions and labyrinthine intricacies of detail, that the three characteristics we have emphasized are the only constant quantities.

It will be seen at a glance, that the University scheme is one that can be realized only in an advanced condition of social life. Wealth and erudition must be present at the foundation, and a taste for high learning must be found in the community.

In our own country, these conditions appeared first in New England and Virginia, and in the formation of Harvard College and William and Mary College we may see traces of the University idea. But the immense work of taming a continent has until lately forbidden our educational system to look beyond the single Col-

lege with its one Faculty of Arts, by whom the mere elements of Classical, Mathematical and Philosophical learning were generally taught. The College usually in the United States is simply a High School, into which a student enters with so scant a preparation, and at so early an age, that proficiency in any department of research as the result of his curriculum is an impossibility. The most that can be done is to strengthen the elementary knowledge and create a taste for something beyond.

The first step toward the University in the United States was the union of Medical Schools with some of the Colleges. Then special scientific courses were demanded for young men who wished to take part in the Engineering and Mining interests, so rapidly opening to an indefinite extent throughout our land. Although this scientific course did not involve a separate faculty, yet the germ of the University was in it. The instinct of our country has, with a few exceptions, kept Theology to separate schools, and it is probable that this department of knowledge will never be thoroughly accepted in our fuller realizations of the University. The separation of Church and State, and the manifold views of Theological Science, together with the peculiar bitterness of theological jealousy may make this exception a wise one in our educational progress.

The cause of high education in our own city has had especial disadvantages to contend with in the great material prosperity of our metropolis. The riches are here to found and furnish a hundred Universities, but the bent of the public mind is in another direction. The young

are dazzled by the display of wealth and seek the paths which lead to material success.

*"Graiis ingenium, Graiis dedit ore rotundo
Musa loqui praeter laudem nullius avaris ;
Hic nostri pueri longis rationibus assem
Discunt in partes centum diducere."*

But with all this drawback, the higher education has had a history in this city that we need not be ashamed of.

In 1754 King's College was established here, which, as Columbia College, has identified itself with the city's life and ministers to our civic pride. Thirteen years after its founding a Medical School was organized in the College. In 1813 this school was discontinued, but recently the College of Physicians and Surgeons, its real successor, was united to the College, whose President now has part in the conferring of medical degrees. A few years ago Columbia College added to its corps of instructors a Faculty of Physical Science and a Faculty of Law. This venerable Institution has thus, in meeting the demands of the day, gradually developed the University form. Its list of Presidents, Professors and Alumni contains the names of many of the most distinguished leaders of American Scholarship to whose wise and fostering care the healthy and prosperous growth of the College is to be referred. The names of Bard, Hosack, Wilson, Mitchell, Kent, Moore, Renwick and Anthon belong to the nation, and if we turn from the catalogue of Professors to the roll of the Alumni, we find represented there the names that gave character to the culture of our city in the olden time, and do their large part in sustaining that character to-day. Bayard, Barclay, Schuyler, Beekman, Hoffman, Ogden,

Ludlow, Bleecker, Clinton, Verplanck and a host of other equally revered names reflect lustre on the cherishing mother who formed the tastes and guided the lives of those who bore them, and made those names a heritage of honor for the citizens of New York.

The College of the City of New York was established in 1848 as the Free Academy by the City Government, as an appropriate culmination to the Public School system. It was to receive only the scholars of these schools and carry on their education through an ordinary collegiate course. Its excellent corps of Professors and its energetic and accomplished President secure for it the respect of all, but its connection with the City Government will always prove an obstacle to its growth into a University, for a University must be independent of political movements. It must be shut in to its own high employment, free from the excitements of the world without. In its government it must be as sacred and inviolable as the family. Only in these conditions can a lofty and broad earning be secured.

The University of the City of New York was established in 1830, and differed in its constitution from Columbia College in this, that the University type, into which circumstances have caused that College to grow, was fastened upon the University in its original plan. Four Faculties, with very minute subdivisions of instruction were instituted, a system of free scholarship supplied, and the government of the whole vested in a Chancellor and Council, who form the *Senatus Academicus*. Two great difficulties met the Institution at the start. The city was not ready for so large a plan and the expense

of its maintenance could not be met; so that at its very birth it had to contract itself into an ordinary College and bide its time for development. In 1841 the Medical Department was organized in its present form, the Faculty of Medicine dating from 1837. In the Scientific Department followed, and in 1858 the Law Department was instituted in its present form, the Faculty of Law dating from 1835. The Medical School in point of numbers has been the most thrifty and successful department of the University. It was a popular school from its beginning, such Professors as Mott, Draper, Payne, Pattison, Post and Bedford could not fail to draw from all parts of the Union young men who desired to put themselves in relation with the best sources of medical knowledge and the best exhibitions of surgical skill. In 28 years the University has sent forth about 3,000 young Physicians from the thorough training of its Medical Faculty. The affairs of that Faculty have been managed with consummate tact and energy, by which the losses sustained in the destruction by fire of the edifice and Museum have been surmounted and their present condition made more prosperous than ever. The Scientific School has lacked sufficient expansion to meet its end, and to that expansion the efforts of the Council are to be immediately devoted. The Law School has been lately remodeled under competent directors, and will, I am sure, maintain its reputation for lucid and thorough instruction. The Faculty of Arts (or Letters,) composed of men of profound scholarship and large experience, have graduated from their department in the 40 years of the University's history about 800 Alumni, mostly sons of the

city and its immediate vicinity. The average graduates annually in this department, which naturally represents the cause of general learning rather than a special professional training, are thus only twenty. This brings before our minds the subject of general education in the higher walks of knowledge and the difficulties before alluded to in the way of such education in this centre of material wealth. If we regard the University idea in its symmetry, the Faculties should not only stand on the same level subjectively as teachers, but objectively also in relation to their pupils. Pupils of equal grade in progress and development should be found in all the departments alike. But the facts do not fit the idea. The departments of Law and Medicine, and, to an extent, that of Physical Sciences, receive students of mature minds, while the department of Letters and Arts receives lads whose acquisitions thus far have been most elementary, and whose intellects are undisciplined. The department of Arts has become, therefore, a preparing school for the other departments and for the schools of Theology. If the University scheme were fulfilled, we should see the undergraduates of the department of Letters and Arts pursuing the higher studies of Language, Philosophy and Mathematics, following those studies to their remotest lengths in comparative Philology, ancient and modern Literatures, Metaphysics, Psychology, moral and political Philosophy, Fluxions and Quaternions. But in fact we find the graduate of this department has only the knowledge that there exist such depths of learning. He views the land from a Pisgah, but cannot enter it. This low condition of the department of Letters and Arts corresponds to the condition of the Colleges of our country

in general, where no attempt to realize the University idea is made. These Institutions, although many of them are honored by the presence of the first scholars of our country, are (as we have already said) but high schools for general elementary training, and the department of Letters and Arts in our Universities (by which title I include all such Colleges as Columbia and Yale) are in no higher position. We have to look to their Medical, Legal, Scientific and Theological Departments, if we wish to see the University scheme actually touched. Why is this? It is no fault of the Institutions. If fault it be, it is the fault of the age and circumstances.

Medicine, Law, Physical Science and Theology lie in the way of a living. By them men reach permanent life-long positions in the community, where they can with adequate remuneration exercise a beneficial influence on society. Hence they are ready to master these departments of knowledge, and pursue their studies as a specialty. But with the higher planes of Language, Philosophy and Mathematics the case is widely different. There is no pecuniary emolument offered here. They must be studied for their own sake, The mind's ambition is its own reward. Now in a land like ours, with wealth and honors lavishly offered to all, it is too much to expect of human nature that it should present self-denying souls devoted to the profound study of abstruse subjects, at least in any large measure. Society shrinks from the poverty and humility of such a course, not recognizing the true wealth and sublimity that is involved in it. And we must be content for awhile. We must be content to keep our department of Letters and Arts a mere Academic department, furnishing the necessary knowledge to a

right use of the advantages offered in the departments of Medicine, Law, Physical Science and Theology. By and by it will be different. There will be in some quarters a surfeit of wealth, or a reactionary spirit excited against its acquisition as the goal of life, or a free scholarly appetite created with an appreciation of the unseen ($\tau\grave{\alpha}\gamma\grave{\alpha}\rho\beta\lambda\epsilon\pi\acute{\alpha}\mu\epsilon\nu\alpha\pi\rho\acute{\sigma}\kappa\alpha\iota\rho\alpha$, $\tau\grave{\alpha}\delta\grave{\epsilon}\mu\grave{\eta}\beta\lambda\epsilon\pi\acute{\alpha}\mu\epsilon\nu\alpha\alpha\acute{\iota}\omega\nu\alpha$) or a conviction that the knowledge of the abstruse is after all most practical and useful, and in some or all of these ways a class of men will present themselves who will as students elevate the department of Letters and Arts to its proper level with the other departments of our Universities. Already a few here and there, known as resident graduates, or post-graduates, mark the beginnings of this consummation.

In view of these facts and considerations, we are not flippantly to compare our American Universities with those of Europe and then pass a sneer at our own. Such comparisons are generally very superficial. They exalt the details of the foreign institutions beyond their merits, distance causing the defects to disappear, and they magnify the faults and deficiencies in our own system. They do not consider the widely different circumstances of the two, both in the genius of the people, and the character of the civilization. Granted that the general aim in both is the same, these cursory observers do not regard the impinging life-facts that relentlessly demand a modification of means.

A scholarship is already developed in this country as sound, as vigorous and as profound as any in Europe, and it will not only supply every demand society makes, but it will suggest and stimulate new demands. All that

is needed is for the Medicis and Roscoes of our great cities to recognize fully the fact and the importance of the fact in its bearings on the high moral, political and social prosperity of the land, that from the abundance of their material resources they may provide our Universities with the material foundations for their healthy growth. It is a worthy ambition for our noble-minded merchants to become the nursing fathers of the great educational institutions of our country. Those works will be permanent. When Alfred's family is extinct, and Alfred's tomb may not be found, Alfred's proud University will exalt his name and make men bow to offer benedictions on his memory. It is in this way the wealth of the land will furnish soul and spirit as well as body to the nation.

The University of the City of New York has passed the era of experiment. It is a fixed fact in our city. It has an improved and interest-bearing property of half a million of dollars, enough to insure its permanence, but far too little to develop its strength. Its chairs in all departments are filled with scholars of established reputation. Its local conveniences of instruction are adequate and admirable. It has not a penny of debt nor a blemish to be wiped away. It has a large constituency of Alumni in this city, who reflect honor upon its name. While thoroughly undenominational in its character, it is nevertheless an Institution that regards a religious spirit as necessary to a true education, and wishes always to be known as a positive Christian University. With no feeling of rivalry toward other noble Seminaries of learning but with a hearty God speed to each of them, it looks to the large-hearted men of wealth, who adorn our city with

their munificence, and seeks to place their statues in its Walhalla.

With these views and expectations, I have accepted the high honor conferred upon me by the University in putting me as its executive officer at the head of its affairs, I enter upon my studies with no ordinary enthusiasm. Whatever love for learning I may possess I owe to the faithful care of this my Alma Mater, who claims my gratitude as well as my filial respect.

*μᾶτερ ἐμὰ, τὸ τεὸν
πρᾶγμα καὶ ἀσχολίας ὑπέρτερον
θήσομαι. τί φίλτερον
κεδνῶν τοκέων ἀγαθοῖς;*

No man in assuming a responsible office has a right to dwell upon his deficiencies. Rather should his faith and energy cloak his deficiencies, and his courage make for skill. I thank the Faculties who have spoken to-night, I thank the Alumni, and I thank the Council that they have furnished me with courage by the clear tones of their welcome. May the future never reproach them for their cordial words. It will be mine to foster the interests of the University with sedulous care, to seek its complete enlargement to the full measure of the University outline, to bring it into the closest relations with the wants of the country and the age, and in doing this to cast off all that may be obsolete or merely formal, and to conserve only that which has adaptation and life.

In this may I have the hearty co-operation of my brethren of the Alumni, the generous sympathy of the educated and the blessing of God.

N O T I C E .

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THE election of Dr. Crosby as Chancellor was made with the express understanding on Dr. Crosby's part, that the Council of the University should at once seek a new endowment of \$236,000, to meet the important improvements necessary to fulfill the University plan, and bring the Institution into the fullest practical sympathy with the wants of the city. The plan has been carefully and thoroughly prepared, and if the means to carry it out are forthcoming, will put the University in the front rank of American Educational Institutions. Energy without money, cannot accomplish the end.

We are confident, that the wealthy citizens of New-York, always ready when they see a sure basis for their gifts, will respond to this call, and make this crisis an effective one, for the interests of science and learning. Faculties of distinguished reputation, lecture rooms unsurpassed for size and comfort in any of our Colleges, a central position in the Metropolis that includes Brooklyn and Jersey City, and free tuition to all, are conditions now existing, for which this increased efficiency is sought. There are no debts to pay, and the finances of the Institution are managed with the utmost care and economy.

The Council in accordance with these views, and determined to act with promptness and vigor, have appointed Messrs. Charles Butler, Wm. M. Vermilye, James

Brown and John C. Green, the President, as a Committee to put the whole matter before our fellow-citizen and ask from them substantial tokens of their confidence and co-operation.

The Council feel that their claim upon Dr. Crosby's services is based upon the acquisition of this sum, to carry out the plan announced, and therefore urge the immediate necessities of the case.

WM. R. MARTIN, *Secretary.*

W. M. VERMILYE, *Treasurer.*

JOHN C. GREEN, *President.*

J. T. JOHNSTON, *Vice-Pres't.*

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JAMES BROWN.

MANCIUS S. HUTTON, D. D.

ROBERT L. KENNEDY.

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ADAM NORRIE.

MORRIS K. JESUP.

WILLIAM ALLEN BUTLER.

JAS. K. CAMPBELL, D. D.

AARON J. VANDERPOEL.

Alderman, THOMAS COMAN.

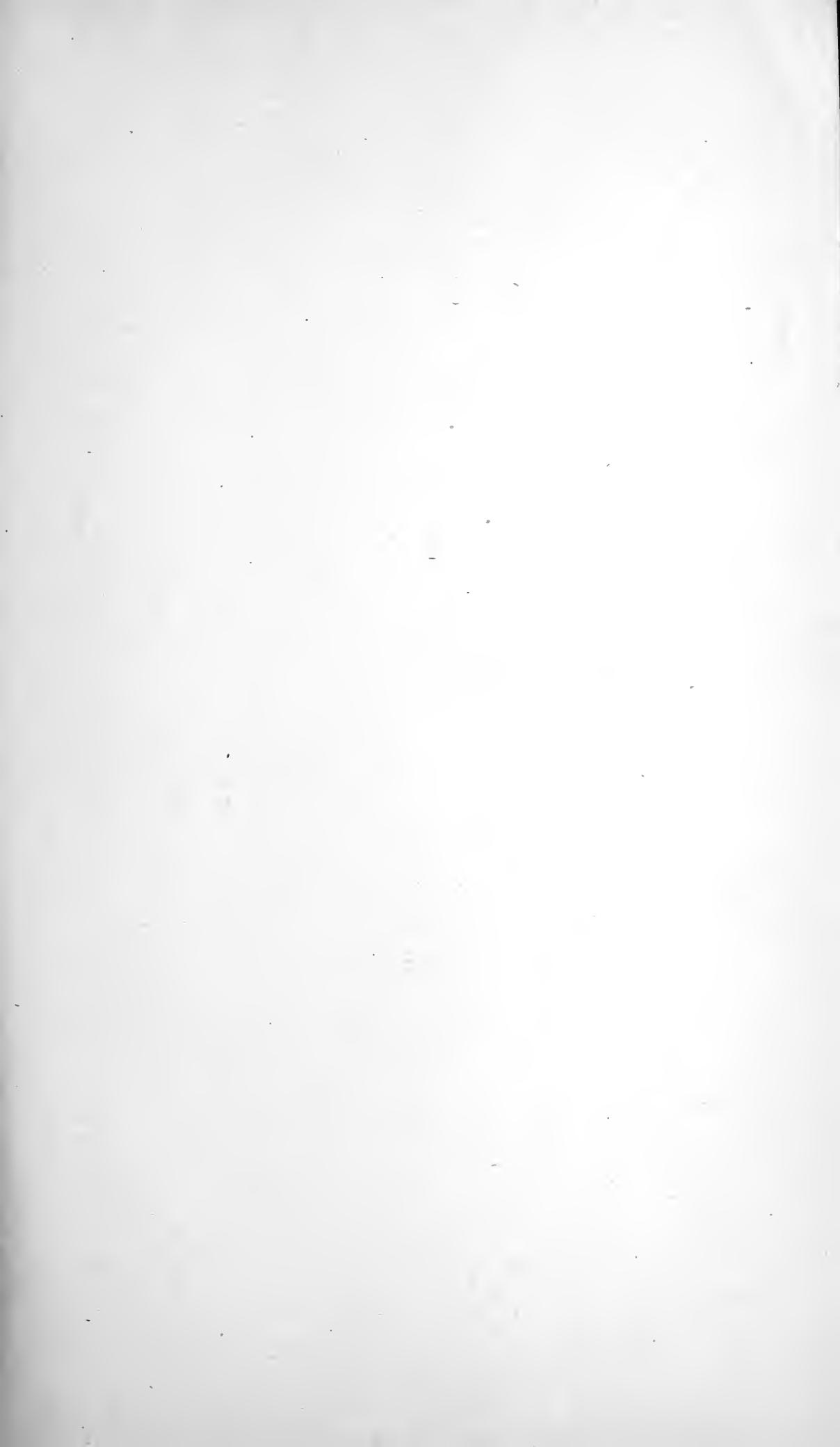
EMANUEL B. HART.

Assistant Alderman, JAMES PARKER.

ERASTUS LITTLEFIELD.

New-York, February, 1871.







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